of plant and machinery, crockery/ cutlery, furniture and flvtures, carpet and linens items etc. annually worth several crores of Rupees; and

(b) if so, what are the set procedures prescribed and adopted for effecting such purchases during the 7th plan period in each unit/division of I. T. D. C. and which wer$_e$ the I. T. D. C. 's division involved in supervising, installation/usage of stores in various operational hotels and projects with respnsibility and accountability of each?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SMT. USHA SINGH): ($_a$) and (b) ITDC has various hotel Units and other properties situated at different locations in the country. Its MM&D Division at the Corporate level performs functions of execution of centralised contracts, exercising control, and procurement of items for units/Divisions of the Corporaton. While central contracts are finalised by MM&D Division ^{f}or purchase of crockery, cutlery, carpels, linen etc. for hotel units, it has de-centralised its powers to the Units/ Divisions for procurement of other items. As regards purchase of Plant and machinery, furniture and fixtures etc., the same is handed by the Engineering Division of ITDC who invite limited tenders from approved panel of contracting firms.

The necessary supervision, installation/usage of items mentioned above is done by the Engineering Division/ respective units who are responsible and accountable for the same.

Late payment of Pills by ITDC

1030. SHRI N. E. BALARAM: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the time period required by I. T. DC. to raise bills for their F&B and Banquet services both against credit cards and direct payments.

(b) whether it is a fact that the average time taken for billing in I. T. DC properties i$_s$ around 90 days which is far more than the average time taken by the other Hotel Chains;

(c) if the reply of part (b) above be in the affirmative, who is responsi ble in I. T. D. C. for the loss of interest on the amount of the Bill from the date of actual sales till th$_e$ period bills are raised; and

(d) whether any action has been taken against such officials by Government/I. TD. C. Management s$_0$ far in each hotel property of I. T. D. C. if not, th$_e$ reasons therefor.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SMT. USHA SINGH), (a) and (b) Normally, billing is immediately done by ITDC hotels for rendering banqueting and F&B services to both kinds of guests i. e. those availing these facilities against credit cards or against direct payments. However, delay becomes inevitable in some cases of benquetting on account of dispute with th$_e$ party for on$_e$ reason or the other. Actua" billing in such cases is done after sorting out the matter with the party.

(c) and (d) Since no deliberate de-lav in preparing bills usually take place, the question of taking punitive action, therefore, does not arise.

Setting up of the Marketing division of I. T. D. C.

1031. SHRI N. E. BALARAM: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the detailed set-up of Market ing Division of I. T. D C. as was exist ing during 1984-85 and as on 1990 91 which is responsive for procuring business for I. T. D. C. facilities/activi ties;

(b) whether it is a fact that, against all principles of Management ITDC. has no Marketing set-up. but a sales Section which is operating under the Hotel Operation/Production Division; **and**